

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

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Ms. Samantha Dachik
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

August 8, 2005

Dear Ms. Dachik,

In March, 2005, the Nelson Campaign received a spreadsheet from the Senate Campaign 2006 joint fundraising partner with names and contributions amounting to \$127,700 along with a check for \$95,000. The \$95,000 was the residual of the contribution proceeds minus fundraising expenses by the Senate Campaign 2006 Committee.

The Nelson Committee erroneously reported the \$127,700 as earmarked contributions in lines 11(a)(iii) and 11(c). These contributors were not memo lines and the reporting overstated our cash-on-hand position because we had received only \$95,000 of the \$127,700. To compensate for this, we included on line 17 an expense of \$32,700 to reflect what was withheld from the check. We now realize these mistakes and have already submitted an amended report.

This introduction is meant to help in answering the question posed in this inquiry. Why was there a substantial decrease in the amount of disbursements from those disclosed on our original report. The difference is the \$32,700 expense in the original report used to counter the overstated contributions vs money actually received. The amended report reported the \$95,000 check on line 12 and included the list of contributors as memo items so that the \$32,700 expense offset was no longer needed and eliminated from the amended report.

We apologize again for the confusion that was created by our not understanding in-the-first-place how a joint fundraiser was to be reported. We will try our best not to repeat such errors in the future.

Sincerely,

Peggy Gagnon
Treasurer

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Contributions or gifts to Bill Nelson for U. S. Senate are not deductible for income tax purposes.

Paid for by Bill Nelson for U. S. Senate.